

66th YEAR

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TURKS ASHAMED  
OF ARAB THIEVESBedouins in No Way Responsible  
for Conduct of Their Un-  
regenerate Allies.

## WAR RAGES IN MESOPOTAMIA

Letter From Eastern Battle Field  
Tells How Men Are  
Suffering.

BY EDMUND CANDLER.

SOMEWHERE IN MESOPOTAMIA,

January 21 (by mail to New York).—

The Turk is as invisible as the German in Flanders. His head has not been seen lately except as a prisoner, and once in the truce. The truce was held the day after that miserable night when the wounded lay out in the mud and the rain and the heavens came down and threatened to put an end to all strife in a general inundation. The river was brimful, our camps were under water; the only dry place was the hold of a ship. We were encamped on the scene of the great flood, and it really seemed as if that biblical visitation were going to repeat itself, engulfing Turk and British alike.

The next afternoon the rain had moderated into a drizzle which an icy wind drove into the skin. It had been an appalling night. When I reached the place of parley our staff officers had gone, and the discussion as to the handing over and burying of the dead was being carried on by the officer of the regiment who happened to be entrenched by the white flag. Their clothes were sodden, their teeth were chattering, they were shaking with ague and covered with mud. A penetrating wind was setting up. At any ordinary time the men who held the trenches would have been in the hospital.

## TURKISH OFFICERS SEEM

## WARM AND COMFORTABLE

The Turkish officers looked warm and comfortable, and as my friend said, they were "most damnable polite." An officer in an Astrakhan cap riding an Arab's stallion, looked as if he had not turned a hair.

"I hear you are in tents," I said to one of them. He smiled blandly.

"How can we have tents?" he said, "when you have these grand bombardments?" There was irony in that.

"How long do you think the war will last?" he asked me.

"Possibly five years," I said carefully.

"Five years? Never mind. It is of no consequence." And he smiled to imply that the Turks took these things lightly. I asked him if this was a typical Mesopotamian winter.

"You feel the cold?" he said. "Ah, no, it is not so cold. It is passable."

My neighbor was shaking with cold in the morning he had wondered armed over the ground between the two white flags, and had been set upon and had his arm nearly broken by a shovel. I believe a Turkish officer intervened. He escaped with his clothes, wrist watch and rupees he could spare, but he grumbled them his spectacles. "No good to the infernal blackguards," he said, "and it will be three months before I can get any more."

A subaltern, also unarmed, felt himself clutching at his waistband and pawed all over. They fingered his waist, feeling for a purse belt, took his watch and field glasses, even his private letters, and robbed him of everything he had, except the clothes he stood up in. They would have stripped him bare if it had not been for two of his own men, who came up in the nick of time and sent them flying.

## TURKS ARE ASHAMED

## OF CONDUCT OF ARABS

It is only fair to the Turk to explain that these were Arabs—whether Arab regulars or irresponsible nomads, is not clear. The Arab regular is the same unregenerate Arab under the leash. One could see that the bodies they were bringing over had been stripped; the clothes were carelessly thrown over them; a Highlander had his waistcoat and kilt; a Sikh, with his long hair uncoiled, had only a shirt; a single uniform did duty for three. These strong, slow-moving, casual men carried the corpses slung over their shoulders like sacks of coal or trusses of hay. They dumped them on the ground, where they lay stiffened in the postures in which they had fallen. Some in the gallant attitude of attack, others with their arms folded under them, shot through the head or the heart.

The Turks were ashamed of this work, whoever was responsible for it. These Turkish Arabs are a lower type than the Bedouin. They have no virtue—not even courage. No germ of decency has begun to sprout in them. We have to leave our graves unmarked in places where we have no troops, for our dead bodies are disinterred and rifled. I shall never forget the effect on an Indian regiment when they found their own kin dug up out of their graves and left naked and stripped by the Arabs. It was an outrage that could not be forgiven, for to the Indian a decent respect for the dead is part of his religion.

Without being led into an unconscious eulogy of the Turk, who has his faults like everybody else, I think that it will be allowed that he has a clean record in this campaign. In courtesy and chivalry he is a worthy foe, and has the reputation of treating his prisoners well. When two British airmen fell into the Turks' hands some time ago the Turkish general, Nur-ed-Din, sent an Arab into our camp at their request asking us to send over their kites. The political handed over the men's belongings and some money for purchases, but the prisoners had gone north when Nur-ed-Din sent the kite and the money back with his regrets and a courteous message that the airmen were his guests and be in no need.

## GOLD MINING PLANT

Dutch Government Expected to Place  
Big Order in America for Sumatra  
Undertaking.

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS, April 22.—A big order for a gold-mining plant is likely to be placed in America shortly by the Dutch government. This plant is required for the important gold-mining enterprise that has just been undertaken in the Province of Benkoelen, on the island of Sumatra. If this State exploitation scheme proves successful—of which there appears to be every prospect—it would bring large sums into the coffers of the colony, and help to pay for the big naval and military reinforcements that are declared to be a necessity of the near future. Gold-bearing ore has been proved to a value of \$8,000,000, and experts report that there is probably another \$22,000,000 worth of gold in the fields.

The first year's expenditure is estimated at some \$240,000, and the second year's at some \$160,000, the largest item of expense being the necessary machinery. Dutch industry is unable itself to provide this highly specialized plant, and Germany, where the order would no doubt normally be placed, is too much engaged in other directions. A state engineer is expected to arrive here soon with ore samples, which will be submitted to American and British manufacturers to serve as basis for definite tenders. Seeing, however, that British industry is so largely monopolized with the manufacture of munitions of war, it is pretty certain the order, to a value of some hundred thousand dollars or more, will be placed in the United States.

## SHARK MEAT AS FOOD

Experts Say There Is Good Ground for  
Belief That Demand for Article  
Will Be Created.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Preliminary experiments are being conducted by the United States Bureau of Fisheries in the preparation of shark meat as a food. Fisheries experts say there is good ground for the belief that a demand for the article will be created. Even now, they say, sharks are more universally eaten than is generally known, as trap fishermen off the Massachusetts coast ship all of the large species of shark, with one exception, caught in their traps. The head, fins and tail are removed, and the shark taken looks not unlike a deep-water swordfish. They are shipped to Boston and New York and sold as deep-water swordfish. The fishermen receiving from 3 to 4 cents a pound.

In the United States there is a prejudice against the use of sharks for food that results in waste of what rightfully should be a resource, fisheries experts declare. In England and Wales almost 6,000,000 pounds of dogfish, valued at more than \$100,000, were landed in 1912. As the flesh of these small sharks, when properly prepared, is palatable, there appears to be no valid reason against its use, officials say.

## ABOLISH POSTAGE STAMPS

Germany Sets Pace to Curtail Govern-  
mental Expenses by Adopting  
Franking System.

MUNICH, GERMANY, April 22.—One of the most easily effected economies in the postal service, not only of Germany, but of any country, would be the abolition of the postage stamp, the Neue Nachrichten points out. It recommends the substitution of a franking machine for the postage stamp, and remarks that this change would save Germany nearly \$25,000,000 a year.

The franking machine by a single operation would not only imprint the letter with a device indicating that the postal charges had been prepaid, but would also put on the postmark and obviate the necessity of using the canceling machine. This method is already used in Bavaria and in New Zealand, while the German field post has taught the people of Germany that the change is entirely practicable. The postage stamp, concludes the Nachrichten, "though a great invention, is now obsolete. Germany has invented the franking system, and by developing it, she will be doing civilization a great service."

## NEW WAY TO MAKE BREAD

Method Recently Adopted in Italy Said  
to Have Proved Great  
Success.

ROME, April 22.—A new method of making bread recently adopted in Italy has proved a great success. It is found that 300 pounds of grain produces 400 pounds of what is termed "natural bread."

In the process the grain is sifted and washed; it is then left for forty-eight to sixty hours in a warm bath, where it germinates and begins to sprout. When the germinating process has gone far enough the grain is crushed in a machine and made into dough, which is passed into the oven.

The natural bread is grayish in color, with an agreeable odor, and has much higher nutritive properties than white bread, according to the Corriere della Sera. Its eating qualities and digestibility are shown by the preference given it by Italians who have tried it.

## LACE TRADE SUFFERS

Nottingham Industry Experiences  
Shortage of Threaders and Transfer  
of Women to Munition Works.

NOTTINGHAM, ENGLAND, April 22.—The lace trade here has suffered so from a shortage of threaders, who have joined the army, and the transfer of women to munition works that the government has complied with the request of the manufacturers for a relaxation of the rules prohibiting the employment of females of under sixteen years of age and males of fourteen years in branches known as "threading the brass bobbins, winding, jacking off and stripping."

ANOTHER TURNING  
POINT IS REACHEDWith Erzerum and Verdun Euro-  
pean Conflict Enters New  
Phase.

## STARTING ALL OVER AGAIN

In Not One of Its Campaigns  
Has Germany Struck  
Decisive Blow.BY COLONEL FEYER,  
of the Swiss Army.

LONDON, April 22.—Erzerum, Verdun—these names connote with certainty a turning point of the war. One cannot see clearly what will be the result of the Verdun battle. It is going favorably to the French, who have withstood the violent offensives of their adversaries on the two banks of the Meuse. But one cannot say that new efforts are not in preparation, nor tell their issue. In any case, it is of no importance. Whether or not Verdun succumbs under the new attacks the future will not be less uncertain for Germany. Her fate, in the present war, depends less on herself than on the energy and perseverance of the allies.

We shall get a better measure of the situation if we briefly review the outstanding phases of the war.

The first of these phases—the campaign of 1914—was the German offensive in Belgium and in France. This offensive drove back the resistance of the adversary, but it did not crush it. Indeed, after the battle of the Marne, Germany was herself compelled to retreat and to give up a little of the road that she had traversed. Neither on the Somme, nor on the Vos, nor on the Yser has she regained it. Then she interrupted her effort and affected to find the solution elsewhere. The second phase of the war commenced.

## OFFENSIVE IN GALICIA

## SECOND PHASE OF WAR

The second phase was the German offensive in Galicia, Poland and Courland. Its preparation occupied all the winter and its execution took up the greater part of the winter and summer of 1915. My readers will remember its vicissitudes, the big attempt to encircle the Russian armies at Warsaw, then at Brest-Litvsk, and finally the rearrangement of the front on the present line of Riga—Pinsk—Czernowitz. As in 1914, the resistance of the adversary was forced back, but it was not destroyed. The second effort remained abortive. Germany sought a third solution.

That appeared more difficult to obtain. The two first offensives had been directly carried out by German troops, but the effectiveness of the same war on a new front. This third offensive was designed to attack Great Britain by land, that is to say, by an attack on the Suez Canal. By this indirect route Germany hoped to deal the blow which she could strike directly by her navy and her submarine warfare. But this route could only be opened by armies which were in nearer proximity to the objective than the German armies.

Suez and Egypt were outside the range of the German soldiers. It was indispensable to set the Ottoman ally to work. But that also was an obstacle, for this particular ally had his own anxieties. Despite the rhodomontades of the official communiqués, the abandonment of the attack on the narrow only aroused misgivings. Turkey felt besides that, left to its own means and its own resources, it could not compass the demands of so exigent an expedition as the conquest of the canal. The Germans had therefore to furnish the necessary backing and surmount this triple problem:

(1) The restriction of their disposable effectives; (2) Their own remote, and (3) lack of communication with the Turkish troops to be put in action.

One knows how the German general staff tackled the triple problem. Bulgaria was his deus ex machina. In hurling herself against the Serbs she opened up communication between Berlin and Constantinople, she relieved the Turks from anxiety about Gallipoli and enabled an economy of the German forces which supported the offensive in the Balkans. It sufficed to have an army of relatively small strength, but which could supply the initial clam.

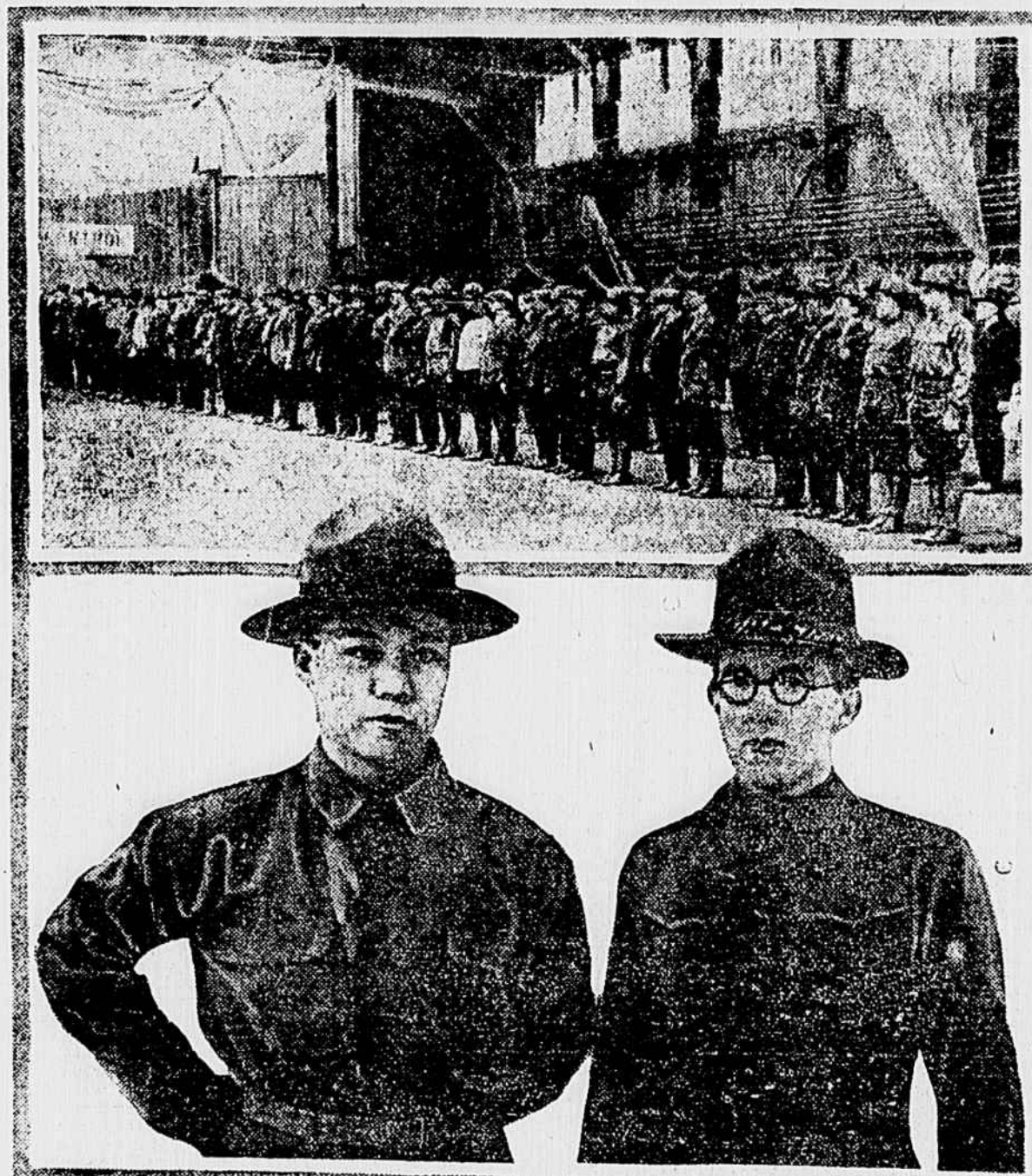
The result depended on the Bulgarians, assisted by the Austro-Hungarians—whose Albanian aspirations would be satisfied—and the Turks.

CAMPAIGN CANNOT BE  
PUSHED TO ITS CLIMAX

The campaign started auspiciously, but as in the west in 1914 and in Russia during the summer of 1915, it could not be pushed to its climax. From the point of view of German military interests—that is to say, in its bearing on the issue of the war—the Balkan offensive had come no nearer a decision than either of the others. The imperial general staff had even to recall the bulk of its troops, thus depriving the Turks and the Bulgarians of the stimulus of their presence.

These events illuminate the fall of Erzerum and explain its significance. The support which Germany expected to have from the Turks for the Egyptian campaign had suddenly melted away, and, after all their effort and twelve months of war, she finds herself at the point from which she started. To be sure, she has conquered territory, both on the west and on the east, but these gains are not definite, since none of her enemies on whom she has realized them have been put out of action. On the contrary, they have been gaining strength, while she, for her part, has become feeble. She must, therefore, recommence all her strategic operations as if the Balkan drama had never been played. That seems to-day like a simple interlude to which the invasion of Armenia by the Russians, (Continued on Seventh Page.)

## Harvard Regiment Drilling and Two of Its Members



This shows the members of the embryo Harvard regiment drilling in the baseball cage at Cambridge. Below are H. C. Yin, an enthusiastic Japanese member of the regiment, and R. S. Lund, with Archie Roosevelt.

WARFARE IN SWAMPS  
TAKES NERVES OF STEELPatrols Easily Lose Their Way, and  
Cracking of Dry Reeds Be-  
trays Them to Enemy.

## BATTLES FOUGHT ON SKATES

Now That Spring Has Come, Ice Is  
Breaking Up Again and Terrible  
Fight With Floods Begins Anew.  
Many Night Skirmishes.[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]  
BERLIN, April 22.—A correspondent writes from the front in the swamps of Rokitno, in Volhynia:

In daytime there is little activity in this flat territory, because even small bodies of troops cannot advance without being discovered quickly. But every night brings bitter fights between patrols, which mostly operate on skates, as there are the best means to get over the ice of the enormous swamps quickly. Regular battles are often fought for isolated trees, which might serve as observation points to the enemy.

The principal objects of the raids undertaken by the patrols are the many haystacks in the swamps, because they afford excellent cover to the enemy. Wherever this is possible, the valuable hay is carried off to be used as fodder for the horses and bedding for the men in the trenches and shelters, but usually the stacks are burned. From my position I can observe a few of these bonfires every night.

The warfare in the swamps requires nerves of steel. As there are practically no landmarks, the patrols easily lose their way in the darkness, and if the wind is unfavorably they are always in danger that the cracking of the dry reeds under the feet of the soldiers will announce their presence to the enemy and bring on a sudden attack.

During the winter months the life in the trenches of the swamps was bearable enough, despite the awful cold, but now the ice is breaking, the water rises, and the terrible fight with the flood begins anew.

## WON'T CHANGE COST

Plan to Increase Price of Salt in China  
Causes Protest From  
Masses.

PEKING, April 22.—Reports that the central government was planning to increase the price of salt caused much dissatisfaction among the masses, and it has been announced by the government that no change will be made. Salt is a government monopoly under the codirection of the Chinese government, and representatives of foreign powers, which made a loan with the salt income as security.

## IRON MINES RESUME

British Capitalists Expect to Produce  
500 Tons of Ore Daily  
in Norway.

KRISTIANIA, April 22.—British capitalists who own large iron mines at Dunderlandsdal, in the Province of Hordaland, near the Swedish frontier, where some years ago important operations were commenced and afterward suspended, will resume operations with the object of producing 500 tons of ore daily.

THRILLING ADVENTURE  
WHEN BALLOON ESCAPESFrench Aviator Finds Himself Adrift  
When Shell Severes  
Cable.

## FIRST CONTEMPLATES SUICIDE

Then He Thinks of Parachute, and  
Launches Himself Into Air 11,000  
Feet Above the Earth—Makes Des-  
cent in Twenty Minutes.

PARIS, April 22.—One of the most thrilling adventures of this war was the escape from capture or death of a young lieutenant who, while in a captive balloon, above the rear of the battle of Verdun, suddenly realized that the steel hawser connecting him with the earth had been severed by a shell, and that he was drifting towards the enemy's lines.

Thousands of anxious eyes were directed towards the little speck, which grew fainter and fainter as the southerly wind wafted it towards the German positions. Four aeroplanes at once started in the vain hope of rendering assistance, but every one felt that the lieutenant was doomed.

Minutes passed. The balloon kept rising and only the car could now be discerned. The soldiers forced to fire, the suspense was so terrible. Then suddenly a tiny grayish speck was seen to part from the balloon, which shot up 1,000 feet, but instead of falling to earth the speck seemed to be pulled up sharp in mid-air. At last, with the aid of glasses, observers saw that the speck was a human body suspended from a parachute.

A mighty cheer rose as the truth was realized, but a full ten minutes of suspense lasted as the parachute, with its human freight, slowly descended, and finally landed close to the French lines.

The young officer said later: "The first intimation that something had gone wrong was when I felt a slight shock. I thought the telephone cable had parted. All at once I became aware that the other balloons were growing smaller, and I grasped the fact that I was adrift. A glance at my barometer told me I was already 5,000 feet up. I tried to pull the cord working the hydrogen automatic control, but it had become entangled, and refused to work. I tried to climb up to it, but failed. Then I feared I was lost."

"I had to be quick, for I was now 11,000 feet up. The cord which was tied round my body was sixty-five feet long, so I had to jump that distance into the void before the box containing the parachute could open and set it free. For a few seconds I held on to the car by my hands. Then I let go."

"I must have dropped over 100 feet before the parachute unfurled, and it was not an agreeable sensation. But after that I did not mind, and was able to look about me. After a time I felt the sensation of complete security. When I was only 2,500 feet from the earth I became aware that the wind was carrying me towards the German lines. Then I seemed to lose consciousness. I rebounded three times before I finally landed and discovered I was 200 yards from the enemy. I had been twenty minutes falling. I am only slightly bruised."

MESSAGES CROSS BORDER  
DESPITE ALL VIGILANCEFrench, English and Belgian Spies  
Elude German Authorities  
in Belgium.

## RED CROSS NURSE IS CAUGHT

When Attempting to Pass Guards  
Plaster Cast Is Removed From  
Arm and Eighty English and  
French Letters Are Found.

BRUSSELS, April 22.—Despite all vigilance of the German military authorities in Belgium, the French, English and Belgian spies and secret service agents in the occupied country manage to keep up a regular correspondence with their governments. In many cases alleged nurses act as messengers for them.

A Dutch Red Cross nurse, who returned to Belgium recently from a visit to her home, made the acquaintance on the train of another nurse, who claimed to have been in the service of the German Red Cross. The alleged German nurse stated that she had given up her work, because she had broken her arm, which was encased in a plaster cast. When the Belgian frontier was reached, the self-styled German nurse begged the Dutch sister to protect her from rough treatment by the German officers and soldiers at the border, and not to tolerate the removal of the plaster from her broken arm.

The Dutch woman promised to aid her new friend as far as possible. At the frontier station the German nurse objected vehemently when the surgeon started to remove the plaster cast, but her protests were in vain. The cast came off, and under it eighty English and French letters addressed to former Belgian officials and English and French spies were found. The arm was perfectly sound.

The young woman was arrested. At her examination she gave her name as Martha Schwartzmann. She is a German by birth, but has lived in England a number of years. When questioned closely, she confessed that during the last six months she has carried hundreds of letters to and from Belgium in the disguise of a German nurse. The mail was always handed to her in Rotterdam by a British agent, together with her liberal pay. Where she obtained her German passport and her certificate as a member of the Red Cross she would not tell.

## RICH IRON ORE BEDS

Chinese Government Expects to Utilize  
Newly-Found Ore at Tchow  
Arsenal.

TSINANFU, April 22.—Rich beds of iron ore have recently been discovered at Laiwun-Hsien, in Shantung Province, and government experts are now investigating the deposits. Laiwun is about thirty miles east of the railway, connecting Tientsin and Nanking, and about twenty miles from the important town of Tatanfu.

A hasty survey of the iron deposits resulted in an estimate that 200,000,000 tons of iron ore of a high grade are available. The government hopes to utilize this ore at the Tchow arsenal in Shantung Province.

COLLEGE STUDENTS  
PREPARE FOR WARPresident of Universities Dem-  
anding Preparedness Meas-  
ures of Highest Sort.

## TO OFFER REGULAR COURSES

Active and Enthusiastic Groups  
at Harvard and Yale Take  
Up Work.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., April 22.—In certain American colleges, called "land grant colleges," which are supported in part by the United States government, a caricature of military training has been compulsory for many years.

The students drill listlessly once a week, sleep through dreary military lectures on war, pass examinations, and forget all the stray bits of martial knowledge that happen to catch in their brains as soon as possible.

The system has not turned out officers, it has not even produced soldiers. Army officers and college educators alike have come to see that it is wrong.

Presidents of universities throughout the country to-day are almost as a unit in deprecating the old type of compulsory drill, and demanding preparedness measures of a higher sort.

If ever the United States has to raise an army of millions, it will be hard pressed for officers. An army officer, in addition to drill, has to know a lot of theory and "book learning." It is to be expected, and the experience of the past has shown, that these officers will be drawn from the better educated class, the men who have had the advantage of intellectual training which enables them to grasp abstractions quicker than the ordinary common school product.

Many American colleges will therefore offer regular courses of military study, counting as part of the work for a degree, to undergraduates next fall.

As to drill and actual field experience, the record of the summer training camps shows that the young man can get more of this in a week of intensive training, devoting his time to nothing else, than in tenfold the time spread over months in homeopathic doses of an hour each.

## EDUCATORS GIVE MUCH

## THOUGHT TO SUBJECT

Educators have thought and written a great deal on this subject in the last two years. President Arthur T. Hadley, of Yale, made a long and careful report to the university on the subject. Educational magazines have discussed it. The general conclusion is: Intellectual side of soldiering in regular college courses; field work in summer camps.

But for the students who are really taking a deep interest in military things and do not regard it as a bore, military drill in college is encouraged. The new Harvard regiment, which Archie Roosevelt, son of the ex-President, did much to organize, is far from the lukewarm compulsory military organization which graduates of land grant colleges look back upon with contempt and disgust.

Each of the 1,050 men in the regiment has signed an agreement which reads, in part:

"It is understood that if I absent myself from any of the drills or other instruction without an excuse acceptable to the disciplinary committee, my name for the first offense will be posted on the bulletin board of the regiment, and for the second offense I will be dropped from the rolls of the regiment, and my name shall be published in the 'Crimson,' the college paper."

Discipline is strictly enforced with regard to the social standing of the college soldier, and penalties are severe. Captain Constant Cordier, United States Army, has been directed by General Leonard Wood to drill the regiment. The course of instruction is the same as that given to men who enter the regular army.

## SERIES OF LECTURES

## GIVEN BY EXPERTS

The regiment drills inside the baseball cage in cold or wet weather; otherwise in the college grounds or through the parkway. But besides the drills, Captain Cordier and his assistants give a series of lectures on discipline, drill, administrative organization, supply services, military hygiene and minor tactics, including orders and map problems, tactical talks on the interrelation and functions of cavalry, artillery, infantry, engineers, signal, sanitary troops' trains and camp marches. Later work on field fortifications and demolition will be added.

In contrast to National Guard practice, officers will not be elected. They will be appointed by Captain Cordier, not according to popularity, but for their efficiency. Wells Blanchard, manager of last year's football team, is one of the most active men in organizing the regiment. At the present time R. S. Lund is the leader of the students in the regiment. H. C. Yin, a Japanese student, has joined the organization, and is drilling industriously.

More than 100 students have joined a flying corps to be organized for the regiment by Frazier Curtis, who recently returned from the battle fields of France. Several aeroplanes will be available for experimental purposes.

At Yale University the students interested in army work have taken up the more technical arm of artillery. There are 483 men in the Yale battalion, which includes four batteries, A, B, C, and D. In addition, there is the Yale Aero Corps, which will soon be increased from twenty to forty men. The aero corps has had several periods of training at Hartford on the new small navy dirigible balloon, the DN-1. This has been made possible (Continued on Seventh Page.)